

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Page 13, line 1, before claim 1, replace the single word heading CLAIMS with the following heading:

~~CLAIMS~~ WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. (Currently Amended) Tear-off device for sections ~~(48)~~ of a continuous material, comprising: ~~(18) with~~  
a pullout mechanism ~~(10)~~ for the transport of the continuous material ~~(18)~~ and ~~with~~  
a tear-off mechanism ~~(12)~~, which has at least two pressure-applying elements ~~(26, 56)~~, which are disposed on opposite sides of the continuous material ~~(18)~~ and a positioning device of which  
for engaging at least one said pressure-applying element can be  
positioned against the continuous material ~~(18)~~ ~~by a positioning~~  
~~device, characterized in that~~ the engagable pressure-applying  
elements ~~(26, 56)~~ are being constructed as eccentric rollers and  
being adapted to can be driven one of:  
individually ~~or~~ and  
jointly.

2. (Currently Amended) The tear-off device of claim 1, ~~wherein characterized in that~~ the engagable pressure-applying elements have internal eccentrics ~~(28, 30)~~, which are adapted to ~~can~~ be rotated and on which the pressure-applying rollers ~~(26)~~ are mounted rotatably.

3. (Currently Amended) The tear-off device of claim 1, ~~wherein characterized in that~~ the engagable, pressure-applying elements ~~(56)~~ have cams ~~(58)~~, which are adapted to ~~can~~ be engaged against the continuous material ~~(18)~~.

4. (Currently Amended) The tear-off device of claim 3, ~~wherein characterized in that~~ the cams ~~(58)~~ have the shape of roller segments.

5. (Currently Amended) The tear-off device of claim 1, ~~wherein one of the preceding claims, characterized in that~~ the positioning device has at least one motor ~~(36)~~, ~~by means of which~~ for driving the pressure-applying elements ~~(26, 56)~~ ~~can be~~ driven.

6. (Currently Amended) The tear-off device of claim 5, ~~wherein characterized in that~~ the positioning device has a control device ~~(42)~~ for the temporal control of ~~the~~ movement of

the motor (36).

7. (Currently Amended) The tear-off device of claim 6, ~~wherein characterized in that~~ the control device (42) is a programmable control device, ~~with which the~~ for adjusting points in time of ~~the~~ at least one of engagement and/or withdrawal movements ~~can be adjusted~~ in relation to the transport of the continuous material (18).

8. (Currently Amended) The tear-off device of claim 6, ~~one of the claims 6 or 7, wherein characterized in that~~ the at least one motor (36) of the positioning device is adapted to ~~can be~~ driven over a limited traversing distance in opposite directions and ~~the~~ adjusting movements of the at least one motor (36) ~~can~~ are adapted to be controlled temporally by the control device (42) and, ~~in the case of a programmable control device (42), the traversing distance of the motor (36) can be programmed.~~

9. (Currently Amended) The tear-off device of claim 5, ~~wherein one of the claims 5 to 7, characterized in that~~ the at least one motor (36) ~~can~~ is adapted to be driven in one direction of rotation with a variable speed.

10. (Currently Amended) The-tear off device of claim 9, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the speed of the at least one motor ~~(36) can~~ is adapted to be varied down to zero.

11. (Currently Amended) The-tear off device of claim 5, ~~one of the claims 5 to 10, characterized in that~~ wherein the at least one motor ~~(36)~~ is a servomotor.

12. (Currently Amended) The tear-off device of claim 1, ~~wherein one of the preceding claims, characterized in that~~ the pullout mechanism ~~(10)~~ and the tear-off mechanism ~~(12)~~ each have their own driving mechanism ~~(22)~~.

13. (Currently Amended) The tear-off device of claim 1, ~~wherein one of the preceding claims, characterized in that~~ the positioning device has at least one displaceable frame ~~(32)~~, in which at least one ~~or more~~ pressure-applying element is ~~elements~~ ~~(26, 56)~~ are mounted.

14. (New) The tear-off device of one of the claim 8, wherein the control device is a programmable control device for controlling a traversing distance of the at least one motor.